

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR N USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sage Inn

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Northwest corner, S W 57th Street and Douglas Road

CITY, TOWN

Dover

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
No. 2, Martha Keys

STATE

Kansas

CODE

20

COUNTY

Shawnee

CODE

177

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Eva Bowker

STREET & NUMBER

Route 7

CITY, TOWN

Dover

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kansas 66420

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Shawnee County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Kansas State Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas 66612

177-0000-080

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sage Inn is a two-story stone building situated northwest of the intersection at the crossroads settlement of Dover. According to some accounts, it may have been built in two stages, the original in 1878 and the south wing in 1882, or other accounts seem to indicate the entire building was erected at the same time. If built at different times, the two portions have been well integrated through the use of the same building materials and techniques, giving the building a unified appearance.

The house has eight rooms and was built in a T-shaped plan. The exterior details have been rather roughly finished. Stones have been laid in a random ashlar pattern and the corners have been crudely quoined.

The main facade, which faces east has a veranda which extends along the front of the south wing. There are two gables with dormer windows over the veranda, which is supported by four wood columns. Two entrances to the building are located on the first floor under the veranda and centered under the former windows. Three single windows with dressed stone lintels and sills have been placed on the wall spaces between the doors. The north wing projects forward from the veranda, and there is an entrance on the south side of this wing from the veranda. On the east a window has been placed next to the entrance and two windows on the second story align with these openings.

The site drops steeply to the west along the north facade which has two windows level with the first story. Three windows along the basement level are possible because of the drop-off.

The north wing also projects out on the western facade and has two openings on each floor including the basement. The south wing has two gables with dormer windows like on its east facade. Below these windows is an enclosed wood porch with five windows. This porch, which is supported on wood columns appears to be a later addition. An oblique wooden staircase leads down from this porch to the ground. There are two windows and a door on the basement floor.

A bay window probably an addition, has been centered on the south facade. This window is the most finely detailed part of the exterior. The piers between the windows, the sills, lintels, base and entablature, which even has dentils, have been made of dressed stone. A window on the second story has been centered above the bay.

The roof, which is basically an intersecting saddleback, has been covered with asphalt shingles. There are small dentil-like corbels on the cornice of the entire building.

In exterior appearance the Sage Inn has probably changed very little. Besides those few changes mentioned above, several basement windows have been boarded up.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Western Settlement

SPECIFIC DATES

1878

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sage Inn at Dover was built for Alfred Sage probably around 1878 and was for many years the area's hostelry.

Alfred Sage was born near Dover, England, in 1833 and came to the United States to Syracuse, New York, in 1850. He moved to Iowa in 1855 and then to the Dover area, where he settled July 18, 1856. (Dover is located in southwestern Shawnee county about 15 miles from the present city limits of Topeka.) Alfred and his brother John were the first settlers in the Dover area. There were five Sage brothers and two sisters who eventually settled at Dover. Alfred Sage saw brief service during the Civil War, participating in the efforts to repel Sterling Price's raiders in 1864.

The stone building known as the Sage Inn was originally built as a residence, probably in 1878, at a cost of \$1,300. And according to some accounts, the south wing was added to the building around 1882. The identity of the stonemason or builder is not known, but if it wasn't Alfred Sage, possibly it was one of his brothers, Mark, who was a skilled stonemason.

Although he principally engaged in farming, Sage was in the mercantile business in Dover at two different times. A gazetteer also identified him as a butcher in 1878, and for more than 20 years he ran the only hotel in Dover. The hotel was used chiefly by travelers passing to and from Topeka. He had three stints as the postmaster in Dover: 1871-1873, 1884-1893, and from 1897 until his death in 1905. According to one tradition he named the town Dover after his home in England; however, another pioneer family in the area claimed they had named it after their home, Dover, New Hampshire.

Alfred Sage was an important man to the small trading center of Dover. He was a successful farmer, businessman and public figure as well as a pioneer settler.

The Sage Inn is used as a residence and has been the home of the present owner for 56 years. This landmark building is significant for its link to the pioneer settlers of the Dover area, a tangible reminder of the heritage of Dover and Shawnee county. It is a good example of the vernacular stone construction employed by early Kansas settlers.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Aaron Sage, Dover Pioneer, Dies at 100," Topeka Journal, Feb. 26, 1942.
 An Album of 19th Century Homes of Shawnee County (Topeka, Shawnee County Historical Society, 1974), p. 33.
 Connelley, William E., A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans (New York, Lewis Publishing Co., 1918), v. 3, pp. 1637, 1638.
 "Death of an Old Settler," Alma Enterprise, Apr. 21, 1905.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3-4

UTM REFERENCES

Lat. 38° 57' 53"

Long. 95° 56' 17"

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Richard Pankratz, Director, Historic Sites Survey
 Cornelia Wyma, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kansas State Historical Society

DATE

January 28, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

120 West 10th Street

TELEPHONE

913-296-3251

CITY OR TOWN

Topeka

STATE

Kansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Nyle H. Miller

TITLE

Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

DATE

January 30, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Sage Inn

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

9.

History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 594.

Kansas Post Office Records, Manuscripts Division, Kansas State Historical Society.

King, James L., History of Shawnee County (Chicago, Richmond and Arnold, 1905), p. 45.

Remembrances in Wood, Brick and Stone (Topeka, Topeka-Shawnee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, 1974), p. 46.

Schenck, Lena Baxter, "History of Dover," Shawnee County Historical Society Bulletin, no. 31 (December, 1958), pp. 22-25.

Spaulding, Vey Bassett Rutledge, Dover--Then and Now (Kansas City, Phelps Creative Printing, Inc., 1964), p. 222.

Standard Atlas of Shawnee County, Kansas (Chicago, Geo. A. Ogle and Co., 1898).

Topeka Daily Capital, Apr. 18, 1905.

57°30"

WILLARD 6.7 MI. (WILLARD)

R. 13 E. 55

TOPEKA (CAP)

Sage Inn
Dover, Kansas

Lat. $38^{\circ} 57' 53''$

Long. $95^{\circ} 56' 17''$

SOUTH BOUNDARY

POTAWATOMI

RESERVATION

Dover

Dover Cem.

Creek